

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

February 2025

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February 2025 Allen County HamNews



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And much,
much more!

hamming it up with the editor

W9HT/VE9FWA



Yikes, another month is here. January blew by at such a rapid pace—and it was a very full month aside from the start of a new semester at the university.

In early January, I drove up to Ontario to operate as VE9FWA for a day or two during the annual K3Y month for SKCC. A few lessons learned: make sure to test everything ahead of time and make sure to have the right shielded cable to connect the radio to the control head. Despite a few technical issues, I still managed to make some contacts with hams back in Fort Wayne and a bunch of others operators. Last note to self for next year—bring slippers if the weather is going to be cold in Ontario in January 2026!



VE9FWA trying to stay warm in the corner of a cottage on the northern shore of Lake Erie

In the middle of January, I had the honor to represent the Central Division at the ARRL Board Meeting as its vice director. Although I do not have a vote during the meetings unless the director is absent, I found the experience to be positive. Like many non-profits, the League has challenges, but continues to represent the hobby and

to provide a host of benefits to both members and non-members alike. For a candid overview of the meeting, I would recommend the article by my colleague Andy, KK4LWR, who serves as vice director for the Southeastern Division: <https://www.kk4lwr.com/>

Up in Auburn, the Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association (NIARA) was featured in a multi-page article in The Star newspaper. Congratulations! I will reprint the article next month if I can obtain permission from the publisher.

Please note that VE testing will be returning to Fort Wayne this month. See the flyer in this edition of HamNews. The current plan is to offer testing on a quarterly basis, although testing in the 4th quarter will be handled by a different VE team at the Fort Wayne Hamfest.

Have a great month!

73,

Josh, W9HT/VE9FWA

ALLEN COUNTY HAMNEWS

HamNews is a monthly, joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club, the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society, and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Articles are written by members and friends of the three clubs. New submissions for HamNews are always welcome. Please send your information to the editor within two days of the end of the month for inclusion in the next edition.

HamNews Editor
Josh Long, W9HT
[drjoshlong \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:drjoshlong@gmail.com)



IN PERSON!

VE SESSION

February

**Get your first ham radio
license or upgrade!**

SATURDAY, FEB. 22ND, 10AM-NOON

**CUNNINGHAM BUSINESS CENTER
INDIANA TECH
CORNER OF MAUMEE & ANTHONY AVES.
FORT WAYNE**

- Preregistration preferred; walk-ins accepted.
- Testing will conclude by noon.
- Cost: \$15 (\$5 for less than 18 years old)
- For more information, please contact Josh, W9HT at [drjoshlong \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:drjoshlong@gmail.com) or 260-749-9851.



Winter Blues have you down? Bored with nothing to do?



CABIN FEVER HAMFEST!



Sponsored by La Porte County Amateur Radio Club
Saturday February 22nd, 2025, from 7am to 1pm CST

*******NEW LOCATION*******

LaPorte County Fairgrounds located at
2581 IN-2. La Porte. IN 46350



There will be Food Concessions, Free Parking, Door Prizes and Several Vendors selling a variety of equipment and other items



Vendor Tables can be reserved by email cabinfeverhamfest@gmail.com or mailing your payment to LPCARC P.O. Box 115, La Porte, Indiana 46352.

Please include your Name, Phone number and Call Sign if you have one.

You can also click here to purchase online <https://link.clover.com/urlshortener/WCc5vD> or scan the QR Code below.



Tables are \$15 per table (1st table includes free admission) Electric will be \$5 extra per vendor (limited access). Advanced reservations paid no later than February 8th, 2025. No Refunds



VE Testing for those wanting to upgrade their license
or interested in getting their license with the FCC will take
place starting at 9am.



General admission is \$8

Talk-In 146.610(131.8)

Visit <http://lpcarc.org/hamfest> for updates and more information or call 219-575-0773

ALLEN COUNTY A R E S



Proficiency/Skills Training event

WHEN

Feb 22th 2025
10am – 3pm

WHERE

**Woodburn
Community Center**

22651 Main St, Woodburn, IN 46797

Make a dipole antenna, Program your HT.
Make a power cable with Powerpole
connectors, Write and send an ICS-213
message over Winlink VHF. Solder a PL259
Connector to a coax cable. Learn to
assemble a 24-hour Deployment Kit.

Items in red are required Skills

**ALL HAM'S
WELCOM**

SUPPLY'S NEEDED

**BRING YOUR
TRAINING PLAN
BOOK.**

Your HT radio & Manual

PL-259 CONNECTOR & COAX

**Insulators and wire for Dipole
antenna.**

Lenth of wire varies

See detailed list.

ON DISPLAY

24 Hour Deployment Kit

72 Hour Major Deployment Kit

**WE WILL HAVE SOLDERING
IRON'S AND SUPPLIES FOR YOU
TO USE.**

FOR SALE

**12 GAGE WIRE FOR POWER \$3.50 PER
FOOT POWERPOLE CONNECTORS
\$1.00 PER SET**



Items that you will need to complete each skill.

Program tone into HT- **This is a required skill**

Program Frequency & offset into radio - **This is a required skill**

You will need to bring your HT and its manual.

Write and send an ICS-213 message- **This is a required skill**

We will provide everything you need for this skill

Build a simple dipole antenna – This is Optional

You will need wire- the length will depend on the band you want to use it on. The formula is $(983.6 / f \text{ MHz.} \times .5 = \text{total wire length in ft.})$ all length given for the lowest frequency for each band, @ a velocity factor of 100%.

80M= 140.514 ft.

40m= 70.257 ft.

30M= 48.693 ft.

20M= 35.128 ft.

17M= 27.219 ft.

15M= 23.419 ft.

12M= 19.758 ft.

10M= 17.564 ft.

You will also need a center insulator (homemade is OK) and a SO259 bulkhead Connector.





Solder a PL259 connector to coax.- This is Optional
You will need a PL259 and coax at whatever length you like. The coax and PL259 need to be matched to each other. Outer diameter must fit together.



Build a Powerpole type adapter cable. - This is Optional
We will be selling Powerpole sets and cable.

Powerpole set (1 red, 1 black, 2 inserts 30amp) \$1.00
Cable (red/black 12ga.) \$3.50 per foot.

Ex. A 2-foot cable with Powerpole connectors each end will be \$9.00 = \$3.50 x 2ft + \$1.00 x 2 sets.

If you are making a cable to go from your radio to a Powerpole block, you will need to bring that cable with you.

We will provide soldering and other supplies, you will not be assembling a 24-hour Deployment kit at this event, there will be a 24-hour and a 72-hour kits on display along with recommended items list for each.

See you there and 73.

Daniel Ungemach, N9PAP



January 2025 Update

We had another great month on the Little Red Barn Net (LRBN) which meets on Monday thru Friday at 9:00am on 3.820 MHz LSB. We have about 10 to 15 check-ins per day (80m has been bad), with self-generated topics each day by the check-ins. A lot of fun.

Also, we have a lunch every two weeks alternating from north Fort Wayne to south Fort Wayne. We usually have 10 to 15 participants at each lunch.

We had several lunches this month on 1/2 at the Back 40 and 1/16 at Olive Garden. It's always a great time to eat and socialize with friends.

The next upcoming lunch dates are 2/13, 2/27, and 3/13 at 11:30am on each date. Please join us!

If you want to be on the LRBN email list, let me know at gmrepair1@aol.com, or message me at 260-437-4676 with your email and call sign or name.

Net control operators are also follows: Monday KU8T Tom, Tuesday K9FW Al, Wednesday KD9HAV Norm, Thursday KE9IWX Jim, and Friday WB9TYJ Don. Friday includes Amateur Radio Newline after the net.

We have a web page at <https://gmrepair1.wixsite.com/mobile> that works with mobile and desktop browsers. The page includes lunch information (times & dates), pictures of previous lunches, and other information.

Also we have groups.io/g/lrbn, but you will

need to sign up. This is where we vote for the next lunch. Let me know if you need help.

Also, our net controls use Netlogger. You may download the program at the Download Center (netlogger.org). Also, for smartphones, there is Net Scraper. On the Android go to Play Store, and on iPhone, go to App Store and download this app.

73, KU8T Tom

Attention All Future Brass Pounders (and others who would like to learn morse code)!

The Northeastern Indiana Amateur Radio Association, Fort Wayne Radio Club and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (ACARTS) are sponsoring a Morse Code Class. The class will be held at the Comfort Suites at 1137 W 15th St in Auburn Indiana. The classes will be held February 18 through April 15 on Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. We will have practice code oscillators. We will be using the LCWO.net learning system. Everyone should use it to practice on-line between classes. This is a joint effort of the Allen and DeKalb County ham clubs to promote CW on the ham bands.

For more information contact KB9QG, Jeff at: [jdeluce \(at\) frontier.com](mailto:jdeluce@frontier.com) or go to the W9OU.org website.



— — — —
(Come to the class and learn what that means!)

73,

Bruce, N9DGL

The Livonia Amateur Radio Club Swap-n-Shop



***Saturday
February 22, 2025
Sale Hours: 8:00 AM to 12 Noon***



Absolutely no buying or selling before 8:00 AM

***Buy, Sell or Trade
Amateur Radio Gear
ARRL Sanctioned***

- * Electronics***
- * Antennas***
- * Test Equipment***
- * Computers***
- * Ham shack accessories & more!***

NEW LOCATION!

***Ward Church, Knox Hall
40000 Six Mile Road
Northville, MI 48168
West of Haggerty Road***

Talk-In: K8UNS LARC Repeater
145.35 PL 100 Hz

Door Prizes from ARRL and
ALPHA ANTENNA®

• \$100 Cash Grand Prize! •

ADMISSION: STILL ONLY \$5! (cash @ door)

Admission ticket pre-sales are available only to vendors/sellers with advance table purchases; visit the website for reservation info.

[https://livoniaarc.com/larc-annual-swap-and-shop/
swap@livoniaarc.com](https://livoniaarc.com/larc-annual-swap-and-shop/swap@livoniaarc.com)

Phone: 734-648-6453

Same-day tables are subject to availability.

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN



Welcome to February. One month into the new year. January was a cold month, but nothing will keep you warmer than an active radio.

February is one of my favorite operating months since it is the ARRL School Club Roundup. Every year, students from across the US operate for one week to make as many contacts as possible. For many, this is their first experience operating. Snider High School, K9SHS, has worked all of the roundups since becoming an established station. One year, we were one contact from getting the top 5 for high schools. You could be that one contact. You could be someone's first contact and spur them into getting their license and continuing to keep amateur radio alive.

As the weather starts to warm up, think about ways to get outside. Parks on the Air is a good way to test your equipment off grid. It also tests your skills, since you are not working with the optimal setup.

For the February meeting, Jim, K9BAT, will bring back the chili cookoff. Rather than a competition, it will be more of a social gathering. Show up and enjoy some warm food and company.

Thank you all for everything you do and trusting in the radio club enough to be a member. If you have any questions or concerns, email me at KD9NRT (at) gmail.com. Your feedback is key to the operations of the club.

See you at the February meeting.

73,

Adam, KD9NRT

Next FWRC meeting

Friday,
Feb. 14th
6:30pm

Good Shepherd Church
4700 Vance Ave.
Fort Wayne

Everyone is welcome!

FWRC Officers 2025

President

Adam Warrix, KD9NRT
kd9nrt(at)gmail.com

Vice President

Meghan Warrix, KD9ODP
warrixmr(at)gmail.com

Secretary

Al Burke, WB9SSE
(260) 637-1989
aburke55(at)comcast.net

Treasurer

Bob Streeter, W8ST
rdstre(at)yahoo.com

Communications Manager

Charles Ward, KC9MUT
(260) 749-4824
kc9mut(at)yahoo.com

Directors

Steve Nardin, W9SAN
(260) 482-4039
w9san(at)arrl.net

Willi Tucker-Hall, KD9ZFP
mzwilli1223(at)gmail.com

Jim Stephens, K9BAT
kd9nyz(at)gmail.com

Carole Burke, WB9RUS
(260) 637-1989
wb9rus(at)comcast.net

State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN



From the ACARTS President

We are into the 2025 year, started off with typical January temperatures cold and colder. But we have a surprise this weekend on Sunday of 50 degrees! But I also figure we might pay for that later this winter in some way.

I want to thank everyone that took the time to attend the ACARTS January 21st General Meeting and Elections either in person, online or casted their vote via Ham Club Online. It wasn't the best night to go outside temperature wise but the roads were good. But we needed to move forward for the new year.

One positive convenience is the use of remote voting and or attendance at meetings via online or dial-in via MS Teams. This is the only really positive thing that came out during and after COVID. We also utilized for the first time our use of the ACARTS Ham Club Online (HCO) for voting purposes. So if it was too cold to go outside to come to a meeting etc. this was your way to participate from wherever you were via phone, computer, tablet etc. We have had a few recent hiccups using MS Teams but we are learning. Please be patient.

I wish to thank Chris W9TSB, Korry KD9ZDW and Bruce

N9DGL for serving on the Nominations Committee. I don't think they realized any nominations through the Committee itself but in fact most if not all nominations occurred during meetings or online voting. But the Committee was available for you to cast a nomination through them per the By-Laws.

ACARTS Election results for 2025 follow.

President: Dan Dahms N9WNH

Vice President: Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP

Secretary: Jackson Wingeier W2TAZ

Treasurer: Kevin Hecksher W9KMH

Community Manager: Stuart Hall KD9LFW

Fundraising Manager: mFred Gengnagel KC9EZP

IT Manager: Kevin Hecksher W9KMH

Station Manager: Dan Dahms N9WNH

1 Year Director: Kelley Clond NT9F

2 Year Director: Steve Shannon K9SKS

3 Year Director: Jim Bassett W9YME

ACARTS Officers 2024

President

Dan Dahms N9WNH
260-503-4163
pres(at)acarts.com

Vice President

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP
260-704-7801
vp(at)acarts.com

Secretary

Jackson Wingeier W2TAZ
260-443-5126
sec(at)acarts.com

Treasurer

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH
260-755-8784
tres(at)acarts.com

Community Manager

Stuart Hall KD9LFW
260-418-1755
cm@acarts.com

Station Manager

Dan Dahms N9WNH

Fundraising Manager

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP

IT Manager/Email Admin

Kevin Hecksher W9KMH

Directors at Large

Steve Shannon K9SKS
260-704-5353
dir2(at)acarts.com

James Bassett W9YME
260-438-6664
dir3(at)acarts.com

Kelley Clond NT9F
260-579-2588
dir1@acarts.com

W9INX Trustee

Dan Dahms N9WNH

I want to personally thank the following for their support and tremendous help in 2024.

Chris McCullough W9TSB who served as Vice President in 2024, President in 2023 and 2022 and Secretary for two years previous to that. Chris is planning on moving to the Indianapolis area because of a job change and to live closer to his family who reside there. Thank you Chris and the best of luck!

Stuart Hall KD9LFW who was appointed in 2023 as Secretary to fill that empty position and was elected to the position in 2024. He really helped us out by filling that important position, he also served as Chairman of our By-Laws, Constitution and Policy Committee. He not only took notes and minutes but also chaired the Committee and collaborated the input to help bring us up to date for many important reasons. This task was worked on for close to eight months by the Stuart and the Committee, with most of the work having to do with the internal workings of the organization.

Stuart will continue on as our Community Manager (newly elected position as of 2025) sort of a combination of a PIO, activities, events, programs coordinator and assisting members etc. He also will be serving as our new Hamfest Vendor Table Manager.

Kevin Hecksher served as our 2024 Treasurer and was also appointed as our IT Manager in mid 2024 (newly elected position in 2025) and was elected to both positions for 2025. Kevin also serves as our Email Administrator for those members that want

a callsign@acarts.com email or for board positions. He assisted in moving the Hamfest to use some new items such as an online vendor app, QR code scanning for attendees, credit/debit card payments on site etc.

Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP has continued to serve as Fundraising Manager/Hamfest Chairman as he has since 2020. Fred has not only oversaw all of the Hamfest Managers and workers over the years but has been an active force on the ACARTS Board bringing new ideas and support. Fred was elected as Vice President for 2025 and was elected to hold the Fundraising Manager/Hamfest Chairman position as well.

Jim Sampiere KD9NPL - SK as of 10/10/24 served for a couple of years as Station Manager. Jim and myself teamed up to research, make decisions and repairs to station equipment improvements and purchases. He was excited about the improvements that were going to be made but unfortunately became ill and passed away. He missed out on the majority of those but knew we were heading in the right direction. His desires and the



thought of him continues on. ACARTS is in the process of purchasing quite a bit of equipment and some of his equipment to continue on our station equipment improvements.

Howard Pletcher N9ADS has been a constant force in ACARTS and the Hamfest for many decades. Howard for as long as I can remember has served as Treasurer and Hamfest Vendor Table Manager. Howard then became a Director at Large in 2024 and continued his work with the Hamfest. He felt it was time to retire and hand the reins over. We appreciate all of his hard work over all those years!

Steve Shannon K9SKS has been a Director at Large for some time now and was re-elected in 2025 for a two year term. Steve has been there when we needed him to help out with whatever we needed for an opinion, a vote or an idea. He also has helped out at the Hamfest for many years and serves as the IMO Net Manager.

Jim Bassett W9YME came on board as an appointed Director at Large in 2023. And became an elected Director in 2024. Jim was re-elected as three year Director in 2025. Jim helps by taking on tasks and gives us support and input that we need.

Welcome to Kelley Clond NT9F as our 2025 1 Year Director at Large. Kelley helped by filling in this year as the Hamfest Forums Manager to try to give Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA a break for him to occupy the ARRL Tables at the Hamfest. We appreciate Kelley's volunteerism and look forward to his continued input, guidance and wisdom.

I would like to also welcome Jackson Wingeier W2TAZ our new 2025 Secretary. In a twist of fate, after Stuart Hall KD9LFW had withdrawn his candidacy for Secretary. He already had the intent to run for only for the Community Manager position and already held the non-elected position of Hamfest Vendor Table Manager. Jackson volunteered for the position and was appointed by the Board in a Special Board Meeting that was called in between sessions of our General meeting on Tuesday January 21st. Jackson will bring with him his energy and youthful ideas and use his quick technical ability to help us all out.

As I write this our two new Kenwood Repeaters a VHF NXR-1700-E and an UHF NXR-1800-

E2 finally arrived today. Almost just in time as we have had some intermittent receive issues with the current .88. While the problem went away for now, so we have not determined what the cause is as of yet. I don't believe it was the dual band antenna as the UHF seemed fine and the transmit power hadn't seemed to drop on either. Without going there at the time it still leaves other things to suspect that are in line.

I do worry about our .88 antenna situation as we are stuck for the moment with it until at least 2026 at the current site, be it the recent cause of issues or not. A four or five year old two section amateur grade antenna at 575' is not a good thing. But I understand the reasoning behind it at the time. Other alternatives are being looked into currently.

We know one thing that we now have received our replacements for the 146.880 and the 443.800. Programming needs to be accomplished yet and a burn in period.

We are also at a minimum still waiting on two Samlex power supplies. And we will need to set our budget for 2025 at our next Board meeting as we have not purchased the two amplifiers as of yet because of it being the end of the year. We only spent half of the 2024 allotment in the station equipment budget. So we will set those figures and hopefully continue on with those



purchases very soon.

The current Motorola MTR3000 now on .88 will be gone through to find any problems after the new one is on the air. If everything checks out or a problem is found and corrected then it will be moved to operate the 147.255 Repeater. The current Bridgecom BCR-40U UHF Repeater now on 443.800 will then be moved to a new future potential use.

We are in the process of purchasing some club station equipment also that has been determined to be wanted and needed from Jim Sampiere KD9NPL's estate. Small amounts of items (maybe a dozen at a time) determined not needed by ACARTS will be brought in to each club meeting. So show up at the meetings and see what interests you!



The ACARTS February program will be information on the re-activation of the PFW (Purdue-Fort Wayne) amateur station by Jim AC9EZ on Tuesday February 18th at 7 PM at Red Cross 1212 E. California Rd. Fort Wayne. We will also be offering for sale a long line up of HT's, a few mobiles and a HF Station. More items to come each month.

Everyone is always welcome to our meetings, our General meetings are open to the public third Tuesday of each month at 7 PM.

73,

Dan Dahms N9WNH

ACARTS President

Amateur Radio Equipment & Electronics For Sale

Approximately a dozen items will be brought in for sale consisting of estate items or surplus to ACARTS's needs at each ACARTS General Meeting this year until all items are sold.

Various items including HT's, Mobiles, Base Stations, Scanners, Antennas, Accessories, Parts etc. too numerous to list. We are limiting to around a dozen or so items at a time because of time constraints. Anyone is welcome to join us at those meetings they are open to the public.



General meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Red Cross Chapter 1212 E. California Rd. Fort Wayne, IN. Meetings start at 7 PM.

Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Next ACARTS meeting

Tuesday,
Feb. 11th
7pm

Red Cross Chapter
1212 E. California Rd.
or join virtually
via Teams

Everyone is welcome!





What to Expect on the Bands in 2025

BY CARL LUETZELSCHWAB, K9LA

We are at solar maximum for Cycle 25. Right now its smoothed sunspot number is around 150, which puts it between Cycle 24 (fourth smallest in recorded history) and Cycle 23 (an average cycle based on all previous solar cycles). Cycle 25 is not expected to get much higher than Cycle 23 – if it even gets that high. Here's what we can expect on the bands during 2025.

The Low Bands – 160m, 80m/75m, 60m

These bands are more dependent on the amount of loss incurred than the amount of ionization needed to refract (bend) the signal back to Earth. For DX contacts, where we are now is not as good as at solar minimum (which gives the lowest ionospheric absorption) – but don't give up entirely. For domestic/local contacts, these bands will be useful during the day and night.

The High Bands – 15m, 12m, 10m

These bands are more dependent on the amount of ionization needed than the amount of loss incurred. Man-made noise and ionospheric absorption are less on these bands, giving higher signal-to-noise ratios. For DX contacts, these bands will be best during the day during the fall and winter months, with some opportunities after sunset. The summer months will have lower MUFs – hope for sporadic-E to help these bands during the summer (especially for Field Day).

The Middle Bands – 40m, 30m, 20m, 17m

These bands depend somewhat on the amount of loss incurred and somewhat on the amount of ionization needed. They are the transition bands – they are transitioning from needing low loss to needing more ionization. These bands can be very useful

throughout an entire solar cycle. Although the MUFs will be lower in the summer months, a positive aspect is that 20m should be open worldwide all night during April, May, June and July.

VHF – 6m

We'll see some propagation via the F₂ region in the fall and winter months during the day. These openings are likely helped by an F₂ region enhancement – a moderate spike in the K index, a path that stays at low latitudes or an unusual amount of ionization in the right place. Watch for sporadic-E – and possible tropo ducting in the summer months with a large enough inversion.



Final comments

Cycle 25 should continue at its solar maximum level for a couple years before starting to decline. If you're going after DXCC, WAZ, WAS, WAC or whatever, now's the time to get on to complete the higher-band portions of these awards.



iFTx – an FT8/FT4 Application for iOS Devices

Hello my fellow radio bugs! A belated welcome to all of you to 2025. This is the first *Tuning Up* column of 2025 (pneumonia kept me down and out for much of December/January). There are a lot of topics that I'm hoping to cover in this year's *Tuning Up* column, but I'll start with a quick tech update on a neat piece of software – iFTx

iFTx is a software application that an operator can download on their iPhone or iPad and, assuming they have the proper connections to their transceiver of choice, make FT8/FT4 contacts. The app appears to be a sort of “re-work” of the WSJT-X software suite, which is commonly used by hams to operate the FT8/FT4 and other digital modes.

iFTx is not free. Currently, it appears to cost \$2.00 on the Apple app store. Also, reports from users on this app are mixed. If the reports are taken at face value, the app seems to be functional and useful to those operators hoping for a quick, easy solution to operate FT8/FT4 in the field with their iPhone/iPad. Unfortunately, some reports seem to suggest that the app is still experiencing some growing pains and will probably need some time before it becomes reliably functional.

One thing to keep in mind is that this app is only for use by iOS devices (e.g. Apple products). If you have an iPhone or iPad, you are in luck and can purchase the app! Unfortunately, there do not appear to be any other apps for iOS devices one can use for ft8/ft4, but perhaps in the future

we will see some additional apps surface for use with iOS devices.

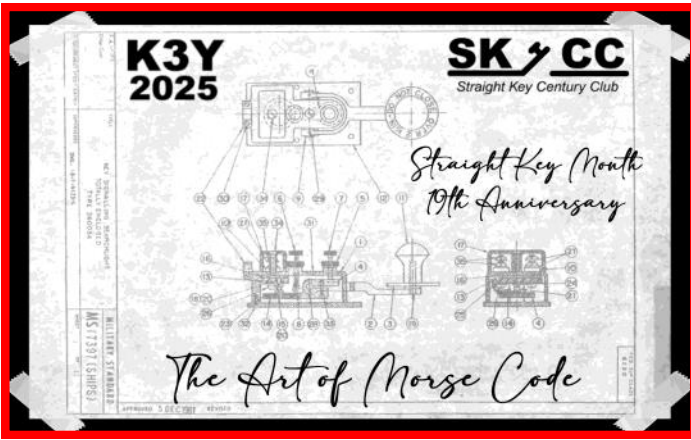
For those of you whose smart device (phone or tablet) uses the Android operating system, you are also in luck. A youtube video by Lithuanian amateur LY2H provides a detailed look at using the Android application “FT8CN” and operating FT8 out in the field using nothing more than a small, qrp transceiver and an Android smartphone. The video link can be found here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmM8Kv1uOOw>. Apparently, a second FT8-capable app for Android devices is also available, so Android users have multiple options from

which to choose. The most pronounced benefit of using a software application on your smart device for FT8/FT4 is the portability such a set up guarantees. Many operators, myself included, traditionally oper-



ate FT8/FT4 using a laptop computer, a sound-card interface, and a standard hf transceiver. However, with a smart device and a soundcard-equipped transceiver, today's radio amateur can now operate digital modes like FT8/FT4 on the go with nothing more than a common smartphone and a tiny qrp transceiver (such as the QMX or QDX by QRP Labs). Such portability is highly prized by POTA/SOTA activators where space and weight come at a premium, especially in more remote parks/summits. To have a functional station in, literally, the palm of one's hand and capable of operating every mode from cw to ssb to digital is mindboggling. I am excited to see how technology will continue to evolve to give us amateurs in 2025 even more opportunities to take our operating on the go.

73 es good dx de Jim AC9EZ



K3Y/9 W9TE Multi Fun

Once again, 11 of the Fort Wayne area SKC-Cers gathered at the N8KR shack to activate the special K3Y/9 call, a special event call celebrating Straight Key Month, during the Weekend Sprintathon. The preparation for the operation began Friday evening when N8KR and xyl left 75 degree sunny Florida and arrived at the Fort Wayne airport in a COLD snowstorm! W9HT picked Ken and Deb up and got them to their home where Ken got to use his snow blower for the very first time since he purchased it a few years ago! Saturday morning began with more snow blowing just before the arrival of the first SKCC op: AL – K9FW. From 7am to 9pm the station was active with three radios. One station was set up by John-NJ0U remoting his station with his Flex Maestro radio. Throughout the day people showed up to operate making 376 contacts during the day. Along with operating there was a lot of “chatter” going on in the background and the food was plentiful! Ed – WA9BBN brought his 7300 for use at the second station, Joe-WB9EAO always brings his favorite tea to sip on as he operates, Steve-AC9XS is known for his “good ears” while operating along with bringing some home made cookies! Carl-K9LA always stops by to add his fist to the operation as does Jim-KR9U who also makes the 160 meter qso’s. Josh-W9HT always fills an empty chair, picks up pizza for us and takes pictures. Rose-KA9GKE spent most of her time visiting with Deb – Ken’s xyl. Bruce-N9DGL was spent

most of the day on Saturday and came back on Sunday AND gifted the N8KR shack with a “Tim Allen” BIN-FORD WM-3000KW amplifier for us to use. We thought we should not run it at max so kept it at a little under 2000 KW (note: not 2000 w but 2000 Kw!!)



Thanks to Bruce for a little levity during the day as he brought over the old wattmeter and made a label to cover the Alpha 86.

Sunday morning after church we made about 70 more contacts as K3Y/9 KS9KCC and later in the afternoon, Steve-AC9XS operated using his own call at the station racking up nearly 100 more contacts including some good DX. The weekend was a lot of fun, we had a visitor – new ham – from the Auburn area. Ed spent a lot of time with him and we got him going with a straight key and oscillator – hmm – another area SKCCer! Monday late afternoon Ken and Deb boarded the airplane at FWA with temps about 8 degrees . . . landing back at Bradenton, FL at 72 degrees!! Thanks to Josh-W9HT for the pictures!





January 2025



Awards for this month:

AC9XS Tx20 (Tribune with 1000 unique QSOs)

WD9IKW Centurion (initial 100 unique QSOs).

Operating activities during the month of November follow.

For the Weekend Sprintathon (WES) on January 11-12, the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown as reported.

W9TE (multi-multi)	372
AC9XS	90
W9SA	36
N8KR	33
W9GOO	20
KB9QG	9
N9SE	7

For the Two Hour Straight Key Sprint (SKS) on Tuesday evening, January 32 (7-9 PM local), the following local operators participated. QSO count is shown.

N8KR/4 (FL)	52
NJ0U	30
WA9BBN	18
AC9XS	14
W9GOO	12
KA9GKE	10

73,

Ed, WA9BBN

For sale: Yaesu FT-2000 HF transceiver. This 100w HF transceiver is in good operating and cosmetic condition. Includes owner's manual, AC power cord (has an internal power supply!), and original box minus foam inserts. I can also include an aftermarket hand microphone if needed.

Asking \$675 or looking to trade for other HF gear of equivalent value (or lesser valued equipment plus cash). What do you have?

If interested, please contact Josh W9HT via the email address found on page 2 of this edition of the Allen County HamNews.



This section of the Allen County HamNews is available for local hams to list any ham radio related gear for sale or to place any ham radio related want ads.

Listings are posted for one month, but can be renewed upon request of the editor.

Please see page two for contact information.

Your items for sale or wanted listings could be shown here next month!

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

17 January 2025

The January meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held on January 17th, 2025. It occurred at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church starting at 6:30 pm. It was hosted by club President Adam Warrix, KD9NRT; there were about 25 attendees.

Adam led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and invited all present to introduce themselves with their name and call-sign.

Adam noted that tonight's meeting had been postponed from the prior Friday due to the inclement weather that had occurred on the 10th. Better to be safe than sorry.

Bob Streeter, W8ST's Treasurer's report dated 17 January, 2025 indicated the following:

Checking account balance was \$3,704.54.

Savings account balance was \$505.64.

Vanguard Cash Reserves Fund balance was \$28,207.39.

Year-to-Date Operating Income was \$105.00

Year-to-Date Operating Expense was \$300.00

Current Club Account Liquid Assets, Year to Date = \$32,417.57

The club has 106 members so far for 2025.

Adam outlined his goals for the club in 2025. Essentially they focus on a desire to modernize the club. One goal is to get into AREDN (Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network) technology, and to look into Internet linking for our repeaters. And we want to continue the initiative to expand the club's image as a "friendly" club, an initiative started last year with the start-up of an Elmer Corps of area hams knowledgeable in various aspects of the hobby willing to mentor club members new to the hobby or veteran hams wanting specific help. In that regard Steve Nardin, W0SAN noted that Elmer volunteers covering all

of the aspects of mentoring tasks had been identified and are ready for business.

Al Burke, WB9SSE reported that the 146.91 machine is essentially down because both of its satellite receivers are not functioning. The satellite receiver at Parrott Rd. is not functioning because its internet connection has been interrupted. Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ is working with WLDE engineering at the Parrott Rd. site to restore it. The satellite receiver at KR9U's QTH is not functioning because the SDR receiver portion of the satellite receiver package failed. Al Burke ordered and received a replacement receiver which Paul now has and is working to get the satellite receiver functioning again.

Al also reported that he had updated the FWRC call sign roster on the FWRC web page to reflect all of the folks who had re-upped their club membership for 2025.

Jerry Eitner, KD9QHI commented on some phishing attempts that had been received by club members, requesting money. Adam Warrix noted that indeed phishing emails had been received by several Board members requesting money for supposed club activities in the name of the president or other Board personnel. All are advised to ignore such requests.

Adam announced that the February and March club meetings will feature another Chili Cook-Off, and perhaps a program on how to program the plethora of programmable radios that are now available. The decision on which program, which month, is still to be determined. Stay tuned.

The meeting concluded at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

Secretary, FWRC

ACARTS General Meeting
American Red Cross building
1212 E. California Rd., Fort Wayne, IN

Tuesday, November 19, 2024
7:03pm – 9:15pm
Meeting also streamed online via MS Teams

Attendance:

President: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)
Online: Vice President: Chris McCullough (W9TSB)
Secretary: Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)
Absent: Treasurer: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)
Silent Key: Station Manager: James (Jim) Sampiere (KD9NPL)
Fundraising Manager (Hamfest Manager): Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)
Online: Board Member: Howard Pletcher (N9ADS)
Board Member: Steve Shannon (K9SKS)
Absent: Board Member: James (Jim) Bassett (W9YME)
Attendance: 21 (15 in person, 6 online via MS Teams)

President Dan Dahms (N9WNH) opened the meeting, having everyone introduce themselves.

Secretary Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) reviewed the minutes of the October 15 General Meeting. Motion to accept minutes made by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ). Seconded by John Nash (W9NEG). Passed by unanimous vote.

Jim Sampiere's Estate

Motion: To sell the Uniden SDS200 scanner from Jim Sampiere's estate to Dan Dahms for \$520. Motion made by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW). Seconded by John Lazaro (KD9NIV). Passed by vote.

Motion: To sell the Yaesu FT5DR handheld transceiver from Jim Sampiere's estate to Kevin Hecksher for \$300. Motion made by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW). Seconded by John Lazaro (KD9NIV). Passed by vote.

Jim Sampiere's estate equipment

The items from Jim Sampiere's estate that the club is thinking about buying was briefly reviewed. The list will be finalized with prices to be paid to the estate listed for review at a General Meeting at a later date. Unsold equipment will also be sold, first to club members, then to the local community, before being opened to the general public.

Elections

Dan Dahms (N9WHN) noted that club elections are coming up on January 21, 2025.

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for a one-year term for President. Made by Dan Dahms (N9WNH), seconded Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ).

Nominated: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)

Motion: To close nominations for President made by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ), seconded by John Lazaro (KD9NIV).

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for Vice President. Made by John Lazaro (KD9NIV), seconded by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ).

Nominated by: Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for a one-year term for Secretary. Made by John Lazaro (KD9NIV), seconded by Xavier Crossman (KE9AXD)

Nominated: Stuart Hall (KD9LFW), Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ)

Motion: To close nominations for Secretary. Made by John (KD9NIV), seconded by Chris McCullough (W9TSB)

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Made by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP), seconded by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ).

Nominated: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH), Kevin's wife if she is a member

Motion: To close nominations for Treasurer. Made by Xavier Crossman (KE9AXD), seconded by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ). Passed by vote.

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for Community Manger. Made by Xavier Crossman (KE9AXD), seconded by John Nash (W9NEG).

Nominated: Willie Tucker-Hall (KD9ZFP), Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)

Motion: To close nominations for Community Manager made by Christy Settecase (KA9LLI), seconded by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ).

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for Fundraising/Hamfest Manager. Made by John Lazaro (KD9NIV), seconded by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ).

Nominated: Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP), Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)

Motion: To close nominations for Fundraising/Hamfest Manager. Made by John Lazaro (KD9NIV), seconded by John Seely (WB9ZMC). Passed by vote.

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for a one-year term for Station Manager. Made by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ), seconded by Christy Settecase (KA9LLI).

Nominated: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)

Motion: To close nominations for Station Manager. Made by John Lazaro (KD9NIV), seconded by John Seely (WB9ZMC). Passed by vote.

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for a one-year term for IT Manager. Made by Xavier Crossman (KE9AXD), seconded by Christy Settecase (KA9LLI).

Nominated: Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ), Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH), John Nash (W9NEG)

Motion: To close nominations for IT Manager. Made by Steve Shannon (K9SKS), seconded by John Seely (WB9ZMC). Passed by vote.

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for a one-year term for At-Large Board Member. Made by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW), seconded by John Lazaro (WD9NIV).

Nominated: John Lazaro (WD9NIV), Kelly Clond (NT9F)

Motion: To close nominations for one-year term for At-Large Board Member. Made by Christy Settecase (KA9LLI), seconded by Xavier Crossman (KE9AXD). Passed by vote.

Motion: To open the floor for nominations for a two-year term for At-Large Board Member. Made by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ), seconded by Xavier Crossman (KE9AXD).

Nominated: Steve Shannon (K9SKS)

Motion: To close nominations for two-year term for At-Large Board Member. Made by John Lazaro (KD9NIV), seconded by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW). Passed by vote.

Motion: To open nominations for a three-year term for At-Large Board Member. Made by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP), seconded by Xavier Crossman (KE9AXD).

Nominated: none

Motion: To close nominations for two-year term for At-Large Board Member. Made by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ), seconded by Steve Shannon (K9SKS). Passed by vote.

Hamfest Review

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted the Grand Prize winners as:

Winner Grand Prize: \$250, Don Smith N9BGW

Second Grand Prize: \$100, Craig Brown, W9CB

Third Grand Prize: \$50, Jay Pohler, KD9OKD

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) reviewed volunteers.

All non-ACARTS volunteers received a free one-year membership to ACARTS.

Total volunteers = 102

Volunteer Drawing: (\$50 each)

1. Bob Erb, N9PWM
2. Josh DuMont
3. Ken Saylor, N9JFS
4. Steve Mollman, KD9HL
5. Kevin Buinowski, KC9OMV

6. Don Gagnon, WB8HQS

Preliminary Numbers of Attendance and Finances for 2024 Hamfest reviewed by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW):

Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZIP) asked for feedback from Hamfest experience, encouraging people to e-mail him at fm@acarts.com

Meeting attendees were surveyed on their experience of the Hamfest and provided feedback.

The annual Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17 at 6pm. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) is confirming which restaurant and the announcement for location will be made via google.io groups and Ham Club Online.

No financial report was made at this meeting due to the absence of the Treasurer.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15pm made by Steve Shannon (K9SKS), seconded by Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ). Passed by a voice vote.

Next meeting(s):

Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 10, 7pm, online via Microsoft Teams

General Meeting: **Christmas Dinner.** Tuesday, December 17, **6:00pm.** Location to be determined with announcements made via e-mail, the ACARTS google.io group and Ham Club Online.

**INTENTIONALLY
BLANK**

ACARTS Board Meeting (online via Microsoft Teams)

Tuesday, November 12, 2024
7:05pm – 8:37pm

Attendance (6):

President: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)

Vice President: Chris McCullough (W9TSB)

Secretary: Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)

Treasurer: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)

Silent Key: Station Manager: James (Jim) Sampiere (KD9NPL)

Fundraising Manager (Hamfest Manager): Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)

Absent: Board Member: Howard Pletcher (N9ADS)

Absent: Board Member: Steve Shannon (K9SKS)

Board Member: James (Jim) Bassett (W9YME)

Recording of the meeting started:

Secretary Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)

Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) reviewed the minutes of the September 10, 2024 Board Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes made by Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH). Seconded by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Passed by unanimous vote.

Club Apparel

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that Jim Bassett (W9YME) has suffered a back injury and has had to back out on helping with the ACARTS Table at the Hamfest. Status of the club apparel is unknown.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that the club's tax status was changed inadvertently back into Howard Pletcher's (N9ADS) name. Howard was to change this and Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) was tasked with contacting Howard about that.

VHF Simplex contest

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted that he is working on printing up the winner's certificate on appropriate paper. Dan

Dahms (N90WNH) noted that the winner, Steve Nardin (W9SAN), will be at the Hamfest

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH), Korry Dumont (KD9ZDW), John Nash (W9NEG), and Jackson Wingeier (W2TAZ) agreed to work together on the I.T. for ACARTS.

Red Cross

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that after the online meeting with the Red Cross there was an in-person training session at the Red Cross including a number of ACARTS members and other radio amateurs.

By-Laws & Constitution

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that there is some difficulty in finding an attorney focused on corporate business and interested in smaller clients.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that the club sent flowers to Jim Sampiere's (KD9NPL) memorial.

Hamfest

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted that the club has sold 255 flea market tables at this point, including free tables, and 29 premium tables for a total of \$9,018 in sales. Eight of the tables are for ACARTS. There are four extra tables, including one premium. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that in the last month the number of tables sold has increased from 140 to 284.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted purchasing two projectors and asked whether a third one needs to be purchased. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that with others bringing their projectors, there will be enough projectors for a total of five projectors available for the three forum rooms. Dan purchased three projector screens but was sent five. He will be returning the other two.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that the club has hi-vis vests for traffic directors.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted that one of the vendors is a computer guy and he approached him about reworking the website. John Nash (W9NEG) is willing to redo the website for free but currently is dealing with health issues. Kevin notes wanting to avoid Wordpress as there are ongoing legal issues and there is an additional cost for hosting a Wordpress website.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted that some vendors are getting a portal timeout when accessing the website and this is from accessing the old website. Once they clear the cookies from the previous website, they should no longer get the portal error.

New Business

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) is looking at a couple of places for the Christmas dinner.

Jennifer Sexton talked with Dan Dahms (N9WNH) about storing the club's AV equipment in their building and she offered the possibility of storing the equipment in the closet of the room the club meets in. Dan is reluctant to use that closet as it is unlocked. He will approach her about storing the equipment in the cabinet in the old radio room that is locked.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted the need for procedures for club keys and a list of who has what keys.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted he will pull out \$1000 out of the club's account at PNC for change at the ACARTS table. Kevin clarified that sales tax is not collected on the sale of club equipment but for consignment sales tax needs to be included. Fred noted the need that this policy is clearly noted and documented to those selling equipment through consignment.

Jim Bassett (W9YME) joined the meeting. He noted going in for back fusion next Thursday, likely being in the hospital 2-3 days. He noted that he will not be able to attend the Hamfest.

Jim Bassett (W9YME) noted that the printer, Eighteen Threads, has the logos all ready to go. Any member can go into the store and place an order. The printer will open an online store for 2-3 weeks whenever the club wants.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that he and Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) pulled out the old equipment out of the WANE-TV radio shack, including the power supplies and Bird wattmeter. Everything has been noted on the HCO inventory list. It is hoped that the five GE Master II power supplies will sell at the Hamfest.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that Howard Pletcher (N9ADS) resigned as Vendor Table Manager yesterday. Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) is taking over immediately instead of after the Hamfest. Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP) noted that the Volunteer Google Sheet should contain the names of any volunteers under the Vendor Table Manager.

The list of equipment from Jim Sampiere's (KD9NPL) estate as listed on Google Sheets was reviewed to see what the club may be interested in purchasing from his estate.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 9:53pm. Made by Stuart Hall (KD9LFW). Seconded by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Upcoming Meetings:

General Meeting: Tuesday, November 19, 7pm, American Red Cross 1212 E. California Rd., Fort Wayne, IN. Also online via Microsoft Teams. Recordings of meeting video will be posted on Ham Club Online, ACARTS YouTube channel, and the ACARTS Facebook page.

ACARTS Board Meeting (online via Microsoft Teams)

Tuesday, December 10, 2024
7:05pm – 8:37pm

Attendance (6):

President: Dan Dahms (N9WNH)

Absent: Vice President: Chris McCullough (W9TSB)

Absent: Secretary: Stuart Hall (KD9LFW)

Treasurer: Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH)

Silent Key: Station Manager: James (Jim) Sampiere (KD9NPL)

Fundraising Manager (Hamfest Manager): Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP)

Absent: Board Member: Howard Pletcher (N9ADS)

Absent: Board Member: Steve Shannon (K9SKS)

Absent: Board Member: James (Jim) Bassett (W9YME)

Carl Luetzelschwab (K9LA)

Kelley Clond (NT9F)

Al Biddle (K9FW)

Jim Stephens (K9BAT)

Due to problems with audio, the minutes were not reviewed from the last Board meeting. Acceptance of minutes is postponed to the next Board meeting on January 10.

Motion: To suspend review of the November Board meeting minutes to be reviewed at the January Board meeting.

Made by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Seconded by Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH). Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) confirmed that everyone was clear on the details for the Christmas Dinner scheduled for next week.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted the following health & welfare announcements:

Jim Bassett (W9YME) is back home from the hospital after a successful back surgery.

John Lazaro (KD9NIV) is currently at Lutheran Main hospital being treated for an infection related to diabetes.

Al & Carole Burke (WB9SSE & WB9RUS) are both dealing with health issues with Al waiting on back surgery.

Mark Reese (N9MR) is being treated for Leukemia and is currently hospitalized.

Jim Pliett's (K9OMA) wife Ann was transported to the hospital before the Hamfest and was then transferred to nursing care.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that work continues processing the equipment from Jim Sampiere's (KD9NPL) estate with help from Stuart Hall (KD9LFW) and Al Biddle (K9FW). Some items were sold at the Hamfest. Some of the equipment has been put aside for purchase by ACARTS if approved. There is more equipment remaining to be inventoried and priced.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that the GE MasterII base station, repeaters, and power supplies have drawn no interest from others interested in reusing them.

Motion: To scrap the GE MasterII base station, repeaters, and power supplies. Made by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP).

Seconded by Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH). Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP) noted his thanks for the many volunteers who helped make the Hamfest a success last month.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted sending out the proofs for next year's return envelopes from the vendors. He also noted receiving a long e-mail from John willing to help out with the website.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that in December 2023, ACARTS membership was about 48. Before the 2024 Hamfest, ACARTS membership was about 97. After the Hamfest, with the free membership handed out to volunteers and successful test-takers, the membership was 155.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted that about half the members on HCO have logged in at least once. He noted also that several membership renewals have come through HCO while a few came in at the Hamfest. Kevin will try to present the final numbers from the Hamfest at the January Board meeting. Kevin also noted that ConventionForce is adding a number of features that may be useful for next year's Hamfest.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) noted that an errant noise tied up the 146.880MHz repeater one day last week. There is also an individual causing problems on the repeater. Work on the repeater recently involved removing an internal CW identifier to eliminate the double identification on the repeater. A new polyphasor was also installed on the lead coming into the shack. A PL tone was instituted on the input as well. The output continues to have a PL tone.

Dan Dahms (N9WNH) brought up the club purchasing the UHF Bridgecom repeater from Jim Sampiere's estate, noting the repeater can be programmed with multiple PL tone and channels. The idea of the club setting up a GMRS repeater was brought up. Dan encouraged people to think about how to verify GMRS licensure and what problems might arise in hosting a GMRS repeater. Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) brought up the concern about how to control access to the repeater and it was noted that access cannot be controlled beyond the PL and DCS tones. Dan noted that the Bridgecom repeater is limited in using DCS tones. Dan noted that clubs are not able to be licensed for GMRS, but he is willing to use his GMRS license. Dan noted that there are two duplexers set up for the 443.800MHz repeater and either one of them will have to be retuned for the GMRS repeater or buy another duplexer.

Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH) noted that he renewed the annual business license with the A.G. office. He also changed the registered agent from Howard Pletcher (N9ADS) to himself. He also noted the need for ACARTS to decide where to invest the club's financial assets. Dan Dahms (N9WNH) encouraged Kevin to connect with Bob Streeter (W9ST) the Treasurer of Fort Wayne Radio Club.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm. Made by Fred Gengnagel (KC9EZP). Seconded by Kevin Hecksher (W9KMH).

Upcoming Meetings:

ACARTS Christmas Banquet, Tuesday, December 17, 6pm, Don Hall's Factory Restaurant, 5811 Coldwater Road, Fort Wayne, IN





TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION HAMFEST 2025

TMRA 67th Hamfest - Radios/Computers/Electronics

SUNDAY March 16th 2025 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Owens Community College, Student Health and Activity Center (SHAC)
7315 Championship Drive, Perrysburg, Ohio 43551
(Same location – just an update of the street address on campus)
(EAST side of Oregon Road. GPS N41° 35.575' W83° 32.051')
Talk-in: 147.27+ (PL 103.5)

On Campus Parking is Free and Close to the Hamfest

This ARRL-approved Huge Hamfest is Indoors and Security is Provided.

Tables are \$20.00 (floor) \$25.00 (wall) - free electric hook-up

All admission tickets are \$10.00 (Children 12 years old and under – **FREE**)

TABLE APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEB SITE
www.w8hhf.org

VE TESTING at 9:00am (**Registration at 8:30am**)
(If attending only for VE testing – purchase of an admission ticket is not required)
Pass your Technician Exam at the Hamfest – WELCOME TO AMATEUR RADIO !
Use your CSCE for complimentary Hamfest admission

SEND REQUEST FOR TABLE APPLICATION FORM and/or TICKETS TO
TMRA, P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH 43697-9673
Please include a SASE if just for tickets

CASH & DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS (must be present to win)
\$50.00 cash at 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, and NOON

FOOD SERVICE *Breakfast & Lunch: Sweet Nate's Coffee*

MAJOR VENDORS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND - to be announced

20
25

OPERATING EVENTS

FEB

1-2

**10-10 INTER. DX
WINTER CONTEST**

FEB

8-9

**SKCC WEEKEND
SPRINTATHON**

FEB

8-9

**CQ WW RTTY
WPX CONTEST**

FEB

15-16

**ARRL INTERN. DX
CONTEST**

FEB

21-23

**CQ 160M
CONTEST, SSB**

This information comes from the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at contestcalendar.com and is gratefully acknowledged. It is deemed accurate as of the time of publication.

Area Nets (updated as of 2/1/25)					
Daily			Tuesday		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	7:30 PM	147.150+	21 Repeater Group Net (97.4 PL)
8:30 AM	3.912	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB Net
6:00 PM	3.910	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net (141.3 PL)
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.940)	Wednesday		
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	8:00 PM	145.270-	Whitley Co. ARES (141.3 PL)
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 FM	FWRC 6-Meter FM Net
Week-days			Thursday		
9:00 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net (NewsLine on Friday after net)	8:00 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
Sunday			8:00 PM	50.580	AM 6-Meter AM Net
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net (141.3 PL)	8:30 PM	145.510 simplex	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
8:30 PM	146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	Saturday		
9:00 PM	145.53 simplex	Northeast Indiana Packet Net 1200 baud (Note 2)	8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES(141.3 PL)
Monday					
8:00 PM	224.780-	Fort Wayne 224 Net			

1. All times local time.

2. NEIPN is direct accessible via any BPQ Chat Node (or through Node hopping etc.) via other packet frequencies in this area and other areas through other nodes (it is locally direct accessible on 145.53 in NC & NE Indiana/NW Ohio and SE Michigan using KA9LCF-11, KC9VYU-11, N9LCF-11, N9PXO-11, K9BIF-11) Most BPQ Nodes use an SSID of -11.

3. Reflector REF024B.

4. Net starts using BPSK-31 and switches to BPSK-250 after roll call to pass traffic etc. NBEMS suite of software (FLDIGI, FLMSG, and FLAMP) is preferred.

5. Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site: <http://www.inarri.org/index.php/public-service/indiana-nts>

6. Please note that this information is provided by the local amateur community—thank you! *If you see any information that is incorrect or out of date, please send any needed changes, additions, or corrections to the newsletter editor at drjoshlong (at) gmail.com.*

Allen County Area Voice Repeaters (updated as of 2/1/25)								
RX freq.	RX access	TX freq.	TX access	mode	network	callsign	owner	use/nets
145.33000	141.3	144.73000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog		W9FEZ	Mizpah	
146.76000	141.3	146.16000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog		W9TE	FWRC	
146.88000	141.3	146.28000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog		W9INX	ACARTS	SKYWARN, Red Cross, IMO Traffic
146.91000	141.3	146.31000	CSQ/141.3	FM analog	EL 519521	W9TE	FWRC	Echolink, No Name Help & Swap Net
146.94000	141.3	146.34000	141.3	FM/C4FM	Not net-worked	W9TE	FWRC	ACARES
147.25500	141.3	147.85500	141.3	FM analog		W9INX	ACARTS	
224.78000	141.3	223.18000	CSQ	FM analog		W9FEZ	Mizpah	Ft. Wayne 220 Net
442.63750	CC1	447.63750	CC1	DMR	Brandmeister	N9MTF	N9MTF	ACARES DMR Net
442.99375	W9TE-B	447.99375	W9TE-B	D-STAR	D-STAR	W9TE	FWRC	
443.10000	CC1	448.10000	CC1	DMR	Crossroads	K9MMQ	K9MMQ	ACARES DMR Net
443.80000	141.3	448.30000	141.3	FM analog		W9INX	ACARTS	Red Cross
444.25000	141.3	449.25000	141.3	FM analog		W9AVW	W9AVW	
444.80000	CSQ	449.80000	CSQ	FM analog	IRLP 8177	W9FEZ	Mizpah	
444.87500	141.3	449.87500	141.3	FM analog		W9TE	FWRC	

Allen County area data systems (updated as of 2/1/25)											
RX freq.	RX access	TX freq.	TX access	mode	network	BBS/ MBX/ PBBS	owner	net alias	network node	KA-node	digipeater
144.39	141.3	144.39	CSQ	APRS	APRS	W9INX-1	ACARTS	INFW	W9INX-2	W9INX-7	W9INX-8
145.53	141.3	145.53	CSQ	packet	NEIPN	W9INX-1	ACARTS	INALEN	W9INX-6	W9INX-7	W9INX-8

Please note that this information is provided by the local amateur community—thank you! *If you see any information that is incorrect or out of date, please ease send any needed changes, additions, or corrections to the newsletter editor at drjoshlong (at) gmail.com.*



For more information on the ARRL Teachers Institute, please visit:

<https://www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology>



Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society – W9INX

Email to: Sec@ACARTS.com or Tres@ACARTS.com

P.O. Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342

ACARTS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership applications can be sent via Email, Postal, or in person at a member/board meeting. Membership applications & payments via credit card can also be filed out directly online at <https://www.Hamclubonline.com>

New Member ☐ Yes ☐ No / Existing Member ☐ Yes ☐ No / Additional Household Members*: ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Change in any contact information? ☐ Yes ☐ No *Attach additional membership forms for each family member
 Membership type: ☐ Full Member or ☐ Associate Member

Call Sign: _____ Class: _____

Are you a current **ARRL Member**? ☐ Yes ☐ No ARRL Expiration Date: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Do you use a

Nickname: ☐ Yes ☐ No: If so, what is your Nickname: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Type: ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work Publish*: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Phone Number: _____ Type: ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Work Publish*: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Email: _____ Publish*: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Each member must have a UNIQUE email address; family accounts cannot use the same email for multiple persons in the Hamclubonline.com system database.

*Website Publication Information is only visible to registered Active members of HCO & ACARTS.

Membership Dues are calculated as follows:

	Quantity	Total
Full Membership \$12 per calendar year (Jan 1 through Dec 31)	_____	\$_____
Associate Membership* \$6 per calendar year (Jan 1 through Dec 31)	_____	\$_____
Additional Membership Names: _____		

Total Amount Paid: \$_____

*Associate Memberships also include Licensed Household members, non-FCC licensed members and Students (under 18 YO).

ACARTS USE ONLY: Entered Date: _____ HCO Member #: _____ By: _____
 Fees Paid: ☐ In Person/☐ Online via: ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____ ☐ HCO/Square CC Trx#: _____
☐ Full Year/ ☐ Partial Year? _____ HCO Updated? _____ By: _____

FWRC Membership Application for 2025

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
License Class: _____
Street address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone #: (____) _____
* Email address: _____
* (@arrl.net domain is unreliable. Please use an alternate email address if you have one).
ARRL Member? _____ (ARRL membership helps the club maintain ARRL affiliation)
May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster & on our club web site? Yes or No

Fort Wayne Radio Club dues:

Regular membership	\$20.00 / year
Family membership ¹	\$25.00 / year
Student membership ²	\$5.00 / year
Associate membership ³	\$15.00 / year

(Memberships for July-December are ½ the stated amounts)

Please attach a check to this form (paying by check is strongly encouraged) made out to:
Fort Wayne Radio Club (check number _____) and bring to a club meeting or mail to:
Fort Wayne Radio Club
P.O. Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

- 1: Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.
- 2: K-12 or full time student.
- 3: Unlicensed member.

THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES WILL RETURN...

Stay tuned to
upcoming editions of
the Allen County
HamNews for more
information and
foxhunt dates in 2025!



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